

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. An audio delivery system having a network address uniquely determined according to Internet Protocol Version 6 (IPv6) and comprising:

at least one terminal which reads identifying information from an identifying information recording part linked to a prescribed article and sends the information to at least one server set in advance via a network, as well as converts said received audio data to audible sounds or voices, and

at least one server which sends audio data related to said article to said terminal via a network based on said received identifying information.

2. An audio delivery system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said terminal comprises:

a reader unit which reads said identifying information,

a first address storage in which said network address is described,

a second address storage in which the network address of at least one sending destination server that sends said identifying information and said audio data delivery request is described,

a communication unit which sends said identifying information and said delivery request and receives said audio data,

an audio output unit which converts said received audio data to audible sounds or voices, and

a central processing unit which executes control programs and manages control of the whole terminal.

3. An audio delivery system in accordance with claim 2, wherein the accessing priority is set to network addresses in said sending destination server.

4. An audio delivery system in accordance with claim 2 or claim 3, wherein said communication unit is a wireless communication unit.

5. An audio delivery system in accordance with any of claim 2 to claim 4, wherein a program update function is provided, which updates existing said control program to a new control program acquired via said communication unit.

6. An audio delivery system in accordance with any of claim 1 to claim 5, wherein said identifying information is the information

recorded by a bar code, is read by said reader unit and is input to said terminal.

7. An audio delivery system in accordance with any of claim 1 to claim 5, wherein said identifying information is the information output in the form of radio waves, is received by said reader unit and is input to said terminal.

8. An audio delivery system in accordance with any of claim 1 to claim 5, wherein said identifying information is the information output in the form of infrared rays, is received by said reader unit and input to said terminal.

9. An audio delivery system in accordance with any of claim 1 to claim 8, wherein said server comprises:

- an audio data storage unit in which audio data groups related to said articles are stored, and

- a delivery data search unit which searches the audio data corresponding to said identifying information out of said audio data groups.

10. An audio delivery system in accordance with any of claim 1 to claim 8, wherein said server comprises:

- a text data storage unit in which text data groups for the information related to said articles are stored,

- a delivery data search unit which searches for the text data corresponding to said identifying information out of said text data groups, and

- an audio data conversion unit which speech-synthesizes said text data and converts them to audio data.

11. An audio delivery system in accordance with any of claim 1 to claim 8, wherein said server comprises:

- an audio data storage unit in which audio data groups related to said articles are stored,

- a text data storage unit in which text data groups for the information related to said articles are stored,

- a delivery data search unit which searches related audio data or text data from said audio data groups or text data groups based on said identifying information, and

- an audio data conversion unit which speech-synthesizes the

searched text data and converts them to audio data.

12. An audio delivery system in accordance with claim 11, wherein attribute information is attached to said text data and speech-synthesis is implemented using specified voices based on said attribute information.

13. An audio delivery system in accordance with any of claim 1 to claim 12, wherein said server comprises:

an address storage unit in which addresses of said audio data or said text data stored in at least either the relevant server or other servers are described, and

an address search unit which searches for the relevant address from said related address storage unit based on said identifying information,

and further delivers the relevant audio data based on the searched address.

14. An audio delivery system in accordance with any of claim 9 to claim 13, wherein a locally unavailable data search unit is provided, which searches another server having the relevant data from preset servers, if the searched for result in at least either said delivery data search unit or said address search unit shows that there are no relevant data, and causes said delivery request from said terminal to be transferred to that searched server.

15. An audio delivery system in accordance with any of claim 9 to claim 14, wherein said server comprises an updating data generation unit which updates at least one of said audio data, said text data, or said addresses.

16. An audio delivery system in accordance with any of claim 1 to claim 15, wherein said server comprises a user administration unit which controls user utilization information read from an ID card by said terminal.